

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
MADISON

MCARDLE MEMORIAL LABORATORY  
CANCER RESEARCH

May 9, 1945

Dr. S. Spiegelman  
Washington University School of Medicine  
Euclid Avenue and Kingshighway  
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Doctor Spiegelmann:

Thank you very much for your reprints and letter of May 7. I had not seen any of the papers you sent and I was therefore gratified to find that there was ample background for the paper I had seen. You will be interested to read the enclosed discussion section of a paper now in manuscript. You can imagine with what interest I read your prediction (p.161) that cells with identical genomes need not possess identical enzymatic constitutions.

I cannot begin to cover the things I should like to discuss with you regarding the relation between your work and the cancer problem. I feel that your work has already contributed more to an understanding of the cancer problem than any single paper I have seen for some time. I feel that your approach would not have to be modified in order to be oriented toward the cancer problem, although I would like to see work done on the effects of irradiation and chemical carcinogens on a homozygous culture. Your technique of using a double layer of agar should be helpful here.

I should like to explore the possibility of your coming to work at this laboratory, doing full-time cancer research. If you are at all interested I can assure you that we have the facilities and the spirit which promotes research, and I am sure you will agree that the problem is important. I would expect you to work independently, and I have no intention of trying to exploit your work, as I do not even co-author with my Ph.D. candidates. However I feel that the mutual benefit to be obtained would be very great. We are a young department with a young chairman (Dr. H. P. Rusch) who is ideally suited for the job. I am speaking entirely on my own initiative at this time.

At this time I should like to know whether you are at all interested in this idea, and if so, some of your background, and whether you would be willing to come up here and deliver a lecture for a sum which would cover all expenses? If so I will try to arrange such a project in the near future, and we can discuss possibilities.

Sincerely yours,

*Van R Potter*

Van R. Potter  
Assistant Professor  
of Cancer Research

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